



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

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MEDIA ADVISORY

3,500-plus visitors to lay wreaths, honor veterans

Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery to host popular wreath-laying ceremony
Saturday

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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KILLEEN, Texas — The season of gratitude doesn't have to end on Thanksgiving.

On Saturday, visitors to the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery will participate in one of the largest events of the year in Texas to thank our nation's military heroes.

The Friends of the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery will place around 5,000 wreaths on the graves of veterans and their spouses interred at the cemetery at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 29.

"This is quite a significant annual event for our Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen," said Texas Veterans Land Board Chairman Jerry Patterson. "In years past, around 3,500 people have attended. This year, we're expecting to exceed that number due to the growth of this extraordinary tradition."

Lt. Gen. (ret.) Pete Taylor, former Army commanding general from nearby Fort Hood, is scheduled to speak.

The Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, located off State Highway 195 near Fort Hood (11463 State Highway 195, Killeen), is one of four Texas State Veterans Cemeteries operated by the Texas VLB.

The cemetery is currently undergoing a \$4.9 million expansion project to install concrete support sleeves for existing and future headstones, add 4,000 new burial crypts, and other capital and landscaping improvements (more information at <http://www.glo.texas.gov/vlb/veterans-benefits/veterans-cemeteries/killeen-cemetery.html>).

Due to the ongoing landscape work and the slight possibility of rain, some areas may become too saturated for foot traffic. Continual assessments will occur on-site to control erosion and ensure conditions are safe enough for cemetery guests.

WHO: Friends of the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery and thousands of people who love veterans

WHAT: Wreath-laying ceremony

WHEN: 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 29

WHERE: Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, 11463 State Highway 195, Killeen

WHY: To honor the memory of our departed military heroes

MORE: <http://ww.wreathsforvets.org>

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